

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 19157 171407Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SAA-01
SSM-05 SES-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
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-----121180 171410Z /46

O 171355Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2735
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS CAIRO 19157

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR US EG IS XF
SUBJECT: PRESS TREATMENT OF CAMP DAVID SUMMIT

SUMMARY. COVERAGE OF NEXT MONTH'S SUMMIT NEGOTIATIONS
HAS DIMINISHED SUBSTANTIALLY, THOUGH STEADY DRUMBEAT OF
EDITORIAL COMMENT CONTINUES ON NEED FOR U.S. TO FACE UP
TO DOMESTIC PRESSURE GROUPS AND TAKE A CLEAR STAND ON
PRINCIPLES OF A SETTLEMENT. GUMHURIYYA COMMENTS THAT
PRESIDENT CARTER APPRECIATES U.S. HAS DIRECT ROLE TO PLAY
AND THAT HE NOW CONVINCED U.S. MUST PLACE ON TABLE
PROPOSALS FOR SETTLEMENT RATHER THAN SIMPLY FLOAT IDEAS
TO BRING PARTIES CLOSER. BEGIN STATEMENT REGARDING
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"PARTIAL SETTLEMENT" WITH EGYPT PLAYED BY PRESS HERE AS
START OF PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN TO MOBILIZE ZIONIST PRESSURE
GROUPS IN U.S. END SUMMARY.

1. CAMP DAVID COVERAGE AUGUST 17 IS LIGHT ON FRONT PAGES
AND IS CONCENTRATED MAINLY IN EDITORIALS.

2. CAMP DAVID AND U.S. ROLE. AHRAM EDITORIAL AGAIN WARNS THAT CAMP DAVID IS "LAST CHANCE" FOR TRYING DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WITH ISRAEL AND SAYS PROBLEM CAN BE SOLVED IF U.S. TAKES CLEAR STAND. GUMHURIYYA'S HODA TEWFIK BELIEVES CARTER NOW COMMITTED TO PLAY FULL ROLE AND THAT HE IS NOW CONVINCED OF NECESSITY OF PUTTING AN AMERICAN PROPOSAL ON THE TABLE. IN COMMENT ON TIMING OF CAMP DAVID, TEWFIK BELIEVES CARTER WISHED TO POSTPONE STAGE OF PRESENTING U.S. PROPOSALS BUT THAT APPROACHING EXPIRATION OF UNEF MANDATE IN OCTOBER COMPELLED HIM TO SET DATE FOR CAMP DAVID BEFORE THEN.

3. PRESSURE GROUPS. GUMHURIYYA CHARACTERIZES AS "STRANGE" BEGIN'S STATEMENT THAT IF ISRAEL DOES NOT ACHIEVE A PEACE TREATY SHE WILL BE READY TO NEGOTIATE AT CAMP DAVID TO ESTABLISH PEACEFUL RELATIONS IN THE FORM OF "PARTIAL SETTLEMENT" WITH EGYPT. GUMHURIYYA DESCRIBES BEGIN'S STATEMENT AS THE START OF A PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN TO INFLUENCE ZIONIST PRESSURE GROUPS IN THE U.S. TEWFIK ALSO NOTES THESE GROUPS HAVE BEGUN THEIR ACTIVITY AND THAT THE "MAIN BATTLE" IS NOW INSIDE THE U.S. WILL THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION, SHE ASKS, BE CAPABLE OF STANDING FAST?

4. UNILATERAL SOLUTION. TEWFIK REITERATES EGYPTIAN POSITIONS: THERE WILL BE NO UNILATERAL SOLUTION, NO SOLUTION AT ANY PRICE, AND NO RESPONSE TO PRESSURES
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ARISING FROM CAMP DAVID CONFERENCE, PARTICULARLY PRESSURES ON PARTIES TO AVOID BLAME FOR FAILURE. EGYPT SEEKS A FORMULA OF PRINCIPLES STIPULATING TOTAL WITHDRAWAL, RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS, SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS, AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 242 IN ALL ITS ELEMENTS. THIS FORMULA MUST BE CLEARLY DRAFTED TO ALLOW: (A) CONTINUATION OF NEGOTIATIONS AND (B) PARTICIPATION OF JORDAN AND OTHER PARTIES IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. CONCERNING LATTER POINT, TEWFIK SUGGESTS SAUDI SUPPORT OF CAMP DAVID IS ESSENTIAL. SHE ALSO SAYS THAT SAUDI'S BACKING OF SUMMIT, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE THIS HAS INCREASED HER INFLUENCE WITHIN THE U.S., CAN STRENGTHEN EGYPT'S STAND.
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